

Sri Lanka Simplifies Visa Process to Boost Tourism Season



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COLOMBO – Sri Lanka announced new measures to enhance convenience for international visitors as part of preparations for the upcoming tourist season, the President’s Media Division (PMD) said on Wednesday.

According to the PMD, the government will streamline the Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) system and simplify visa issuance procedures to ensure faster processing for arriving tourists.

Additional immigration counters will be opened at airports to reduce waiting times, while popular tourist sites requiring entry fees will introduce expanded online ticketing options for easier access.

The initiatives were approved during a meeting of the Special Task Force on Tourism Promotion, chaired by President Anura Kumara Dissanayake at the Presidential Secretariat on Tuesday. The Task Force was formed to identify and address obstacles facing the tourism industry and to attract a larger number of foreign visitors in the months ahead.

Sri Lanka continues to experience a steady rise in arrivals, with 1,788,235 tourists recorded as of October 12, reflecting renewed global interest in the island's diverse travel offerings and hospitality sector.